

20 JANUARY 2000**GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2000/2001 AND EFFECT ON OTHER YEARS**

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1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise members of the latest projected draft budget for Neighbourhood Services and the policy changes that will be required to achieve this.

2. Summary

- 2.1 The latest budget for 2000/01 stands at £25.268m compared to £24.618m reported to Policy and Resources Committee on 19 October 1999. The changes to the budget are identified in the report. The Policy and Resources Committee considered a number of reductions to be implemented by this Committee and the Committee is requested to consider these proposals and to make recommendations to the next meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee in February 2000.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 The Committee is requested to:

- (a) note the draft budgets as outlined in **Annex A**;
- (b) approve the savings proposals as shown in **Annex B** and in addition;
- (c) approve the proposals outlined in **Annex C** - Home Care;
- (d) note the principles outlined in **Annex D** - Non Residential Charging Policy and that after the proposals have been modelled to show the effects of the new policy that a further report be produced for members to consider; and
- (e) endorse and approve the proposed eligibility criteria outlined in **Annex E** and that it is subject to monitoring, with a review after nine months.

4. **Background**

4.1 This report is to update the Committee on the latest estimates for 2000/01 to 2002/03 and to expand on the variations from these figures to those reported to the Policy and Resources Committee on 19 October 2000.

4.2 In addition the following **Annexes** are attached:

- (a) **Annex A** - The Neighbourhood Services Budget for 2000/01
- (b) **Annex B** - An explanation of the additional savings proposals recommended by the Policy and Resources Committee
- (c) **Annex C** - A report on the latest position regarding the externalisation of part of the in house home care service
- (d) **Annex D** - A report on the development of a proposed new charging policy for non residential care.
- (e) **Annex E** - A report on the proposed Eligibility Criteria to be used by the Council for Adult Care Services

4.3 The budgets that were reported to the Policy and Resources Committee were put together on the basis that work was continuing within the Directorate Finance Teams on calculating the detailed continuation budgets. This meant that as a necessity not all the relevant information was to hand so that certain assumptions had to be made. As a result a number of variations have been identified to the previously reported budgets.

4.4 The following table identifies the latest draft budget for 2000/01 onwards as compared to the figures reported to policy and Resources Committee and reasons for the variations:

	2000/01 £000's	2001/02 £000's	2002/03 £000's
Net budget as reported to policy and Resources Committee on 19 October 1999	24,618	25,607	27,069
Changes to budget:			
Additional required Learning Disability placements arising from new clients having been identified that currently do not receive a service	110	220	330
Additional Learning Disability transition placements required that the Directorate were not aware of in October.	66	66	66
Additional required Physical Disability placements arising from new clients having been identified that currently do not receive a service	266	498	619
Additional cost of Direct Payments Scheme for those clients that were previously not receivers of Council services.	132	132	132
Inflation higher than originally calculated	7	7	7
The additional cost of job evaluation appeals that were not known as at October.	69	69	69
Latest budget position	25,268	26,599	28,292

5. **Issues and Choices**

- 5.1 The Committee is requested to note the draft budgets, as outlined in **Annex A**, and to comment on the proposals for achieving the net expenditure of £25.268m.
- 5.2 The Committee is requested to consider the policy changes identified in **Annexes B to D**.

6. **Implications**

6.1 Environmental

No direct environmental implications.

6.2 Equalities

The budget and savings proposals take account of the Council's policies and the new charging policy will take into account the Council's anti-poverty and social inclusion policies.

6.3 Financial

The financial implications of this report are dealt with in other sections.

6.4 Legal

None.

6.5 Staff and Accommodation

The specific savings proposals identified in **Annex B** (Laundry, Home Care, Social work administration) could lead to the deletion of posts. The current post holders could either transfer to the new providers through TUPE or could be found alternative employment within the Council through the Council's employment Stability policy.

7. **Conclusions**

- 7.1 The latest budget for 2000/01 stands at £25.268m. To achieve this budget a number of reductions/additional income are required as well as some policy changes. These are outlined in the **Annexes** to this report.

Background Papers: Policy and Resources Committee Agenda and Minutes 19 October 1999.